

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 058657
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA
INFO CINCPAC

UNCLAS STATE 058657

CINCPAC FOR GAO SHELEY

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: AGAO

SUBJECT: GAO REVIEW: "VETERANS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES"

1. THE CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES,
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HAS REQUESTED THE
GAO TO CONDUCT A REVIEW OF THE "VETERANS ASSISTANCE PRO-
GRAM IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES" WITH SPECIFIC
REFERENCE TO WHETHER IT IS FEASIBLE TO ELIMINATE OR
SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE;

--THE GRANT-IN-AID PROGRAM FOR THE OPERATION OF THE
VETERANS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER, AND

--THE OTHER VETERANS' BENEFITS PROGRAMS (COMPENSATION,
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PENSION, AND EDUCATION).

2. THIS REVIEW WILL BE CONDUCTED IN TWO PHASES. THE FIRST
PHASE WILL BE CONCERNED WITH THE GRANT-IN-AID PROGRAM
AND IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ABOUT MARCH 21, 1977 SUBJECT TO
THE EMBASSY'S CONCURRENCE. THE SECOND PHASE IS TO START
THE FIRST PART OF MAY AND FIELD WORK IS EXPECTED TO BE

COMPLETED AROUND JUNE 10, 1977.

3. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT, THE GAO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PHILIPPINE NATIONALS. THE FAR EAST BRANCH OF GAO WILL ADVISE THE EMBASSY OF THE EXACT DATES WHEN THIS PROJECT WILL COMMENCE AND PROVIDE A LIST OF THE OFFICIALS FOR WHOM APPOINTMENTS ARE TO BE MADE BY THE EMBASSY. THE GAO IS AWARE THAT CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN OFFICIALS ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE AMBASSADOR, TO BE ARRANGED BY THE EMBASSY, AND EMBOFF TO ACCOMPANY, IF FEASIBLE.

4. THE NAMES AND CURRENT SECURITY CLEARANCES HELD BY THE GAO STAFF THAT WILL CONDUCT THE REVIEW WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE FAR EAST OFFICE OF THE GAO AS SOON AS THIS INFORMATION IS KNOWN.

5. IT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY TO COOPERATE WITH THE GAO IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES SET FORTH IN 4 FAM 930-934. QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS ARISING DURING THE COURSE OF THE VISIT SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT.

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Message Attributes

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